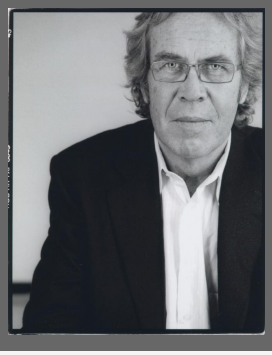
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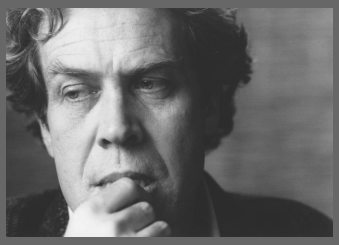
JØRGEN LETH

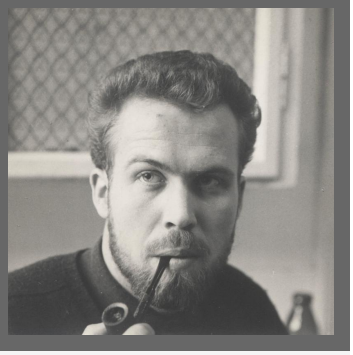
(1937 –)











Director, journalist, author, cycling commentator. Born 14/6 1937.

Growing up in Aarhus, Leth spent a lot of time at the local velodrome, where his uncle was manager, and he became fascinated by cycling. In his youth, he was an active cyclist and table-tennis player. Leth studied literature at Aarhus University and ethnography at Copenhagen University.

In 1959, Leth found work as a journalist and critic (jazz and film), and he was also a writer of sports and travel features. He debuted as a poet in 1962 and has since published a number of essays, poetry collections and non-fiction books.

Leth made his first film in 1963, 'Stop for Bud', a documentary portrait of jazz pianist Bud Powell, and he became a central figure on the experimental documentary film scene in the 1960s.

Leth's documentaries are sensuous, personal and distinguished by the director's singular timing and rhythm. As a Danish film critic notes: "Curiosity and a sense of beauty are forces driving Leth's films. With admirable, tenacious consistency he has cultivated his fascination with surfaces."

Leth tends to highlight the mythological and epic aspects of his subjects. This is most apparent in his sports films, including 'Stars and the Water Carriers' (1974) and 'A Sunday in Hell' (1977), about two cycling races, the Giro d'Italia and the Paris-Roubaix spring classic, respectively. For a number of years, Leth also commentated the Tour de France for the Danish broadcaster TV 2.

Films like 'Life in Denmark' (1972) and '66 Scenes from America' (1982) meticulously catalogue people and places, while films such as 'Dancing Bournonville' (1979), 'I Am Alive' (1999) and 'I Am Talking to You' (2013) are lyrical artist's portraits. In 2003, Leth co-directed 'The Five Obstructions' with Lars von Trier. The film presents five remakes of Leth's 1968 classic, 'The Perfect Human'. Apart from documentaries, Leth has made a few fiction films, notably 'Haïti Express' (1983).

Leth himself is portrayed in Tómas Gislason's documentary 'Heart and Soul' (1994) and in Amir Labaki's '27 Scenes about Jørgen Leth' (2009). In 2005, Leth published the first volume of his memoirs, 'The Imperfect Human – Scenes from My Life', spurring heated debate in the Danish media. Leth has since published several more volumes of his memoirs.

Filmography

Title	Year	Function	Category
Music for Black Pigeons	2022	Direction, Screenplay	DK/Documentary
I Walk	2020	Direction, Appearance, Archival footage	DK/Documentary
The Butler	2019	Appearance	DK/Documentary
Lyrikporten – 28 danske digtere	2016	Direction	DK/Documentary
Født til filmen	2015	Appearance	DK/Documentary
Den hvide mand	2014	Voiceover	DK/Experimental
Sort sne	2014	Voiceover	DK/Experimental
Der er ikke andet end det der er	2014	Voiceover	DK/Experimental
I Am Talking To You	2013	Direction, Appearance, Screenplay	DK/Documentary
Laamb	2013	Narrator	DK/Documentary
The Cavalry	2013	Appearance	TV series
The Erotic Human	2010	Direction, Narrator, Screenplay, Cinematographer	DK/Feature
Han skal dog dø	2010	Appearance	DK/Experimental
Klown	2010	Sig selv	DK/Feature
ABCinema	2009	Appearance	DK/Documentary
Det meste af tiden	2009	Direction, Appearance, Poems	DK/Short fiction
Weightless - a Recording Session with Jakob Bro	2009	Appearance	DK/Documentary
Fiction	2008	Appearance	DK/Documentary
The yellow jersey	2008	Appearance	DK/Documentary
Leth om Laudrup	2008	Appearance	DK/Documentary

Title	Year	Function	Category
Tropical Mix	2007	Direction	DK/Experimental
Monument	2007	Direction	DK/Experimental
The Jørgen Leth Collection	2007	Direction	Anthology
Sanselighedens pris	2007	Appearance	DK/Documentary
Tavi - ånden der steg op fra havet	2006	Appearance	DK/Documentary
Historien bag kameraet	2006	Appearance	TV documentary
Aarhus	2005	Direction, Appearance, Script	DK/Documentary
Ghosts of Cité Soleil	2005	Executive producer	DK/Documentary
The five obstructions	2003	Direction, Script, Himself - Director	DK/Documentary
Drømmere	2002	Direction, Script	DK/Documentary
Nye scener fra Amerika	2002	Direction, Script	DK/Documentary
Monas verden	2001	Rygestemme	DK/Feature
Vejen tilbage	2001	Consultant	DK/Documentary
Jeg er levende - Søren Ulrik Thomsen, digter	1999	Direction, Script	DK/Documentary
Haiti. Uden titel	1996	Direction, Script, Cinematography	DK/Documentary
Ra-ra	1994	Direction	DK/Documentary
Heart and Soul	1994	Appearance	DK/Documentary
Michael Laudrup: A Football Player	1993	Direction, Script	DK/Documentary
Traberg	1992	Direction, Script	DK/Feature
Notes on Love	1989	Direction, Script, Production, Appearance	DK/Experimental
Dansk litteratur	1989	Direction, Script	DK/Documentary
Udvalgte ord fra tog	1989	Appearance	DK/Documentary
As Far As The Eye Can See - Danish Documentaries	1989	Appearance	DK/Documentary
Notater fra Kina	1987	Direction, Voiceover, Script	DK/Documentary
Danish Music at the Louisiana	1987	Direction	DK/Documentary
Moments of Play	1986	Direction, Voiceover, Script	DK/Documentary
Haiti Express	1983	Direction, Script, Dialogue	DK/Feature
Pelota	1983	Direction, Script	DK/Documentary
66 scener fra Amerika	1982	Direction, Appearance	DK/Documentary

Title	Year	Function	Category
Gadeartister i New York	1982	Direction	DK/Documentary
Step on Silence	1981	Direction, Script	DK/Documentary
Peter Martins: A dancer	1979	Direction, Voiceover	DK/Documentary
At danse Bournonville	1979	Direction, Voiceover	DK/Documentary
Kalule	1979	Direction, Script	DK/Documentary
Sanct Hansaften-spil	1979	Direction	TV film
En forårsdag i helvede	1977	Direction, Script, Executive producer	DK/Documentary
Good and evil	1975	Direction, Script, Production, Production design, Narrator	DK/Experimental
Klaus Rifbjerg	1975	Direction, Script	DK/Documentary
Den umulige time	1975	Direction, Voiceover, Script, Production	DK/Documentary
Stjernerne og vandbærerne	1974	Direction, Voiceover, Script	DK/Documentary
Eddy Merckx in the Vicinity of a Cup of Coffee	1973	Direction, Appearance, Cinematography	DK/Experimental
Life in Denmark	1972	Direction, Appearance, Script, Production	DK/Documentary
Chinese Ping Pong	1972	Direction, Editing	DK/Documentary
The Search	1971	Direction, Appearance, Idea	DK/Experimental
Without relations	1970	Direction, Script	DK/Experimental
Teatret i de grønne bjerge	1970	Direction, Production, Cinematography	DK/Experimental
Motion Picture	1970	Direction, Script, Production, Editing	DK/Experimental
Dyrehaven, den romantiske skov	1970	Direction, Script	DK/Documentary
Dyrehavefilmen	1969	Direction, Cinematography	DK/Experimental
Krag-filmen	1969	Direction, Cinematography	DK/Experimental
Rødovrefilmen	1969	Direction	DK/Experimental
The Perfect Human	1968	Direction, Narrator, Script	DK/Experimental
Ofelias blomster	1968	Direction, Script	DK/Experimental
Nær himlen, nær jorden	1968	Direction, Editing, Sound, Voiceover	DK/Documentary
Se frem til en tryg tid	1965	Direction, Script, Editing	DK/Experimental
Stop for Bud	1963	Direction, Script, Production, Editing	DK/Documentary
A Conversation with Jørgen Leth		Appearance	Documentary

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